Stephen D. Russell, Ph.D.

Head, Research and Applied Sciences Department
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command

Dr. Stephen D. Russell was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in March 2010 as the Head of the Research and Applied Sciences Department at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific (SSC Pacific) in San Diego, California. He is also the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) National Competency Lead for Research and Applied Sciences across the SPAWAR Enterprise. He leads a diverse and highly technical team of over 400 civilian and military scientists, engineers, technical specialists and administrative staff members. He is responsible for an annual budget of over $300 million supporting research, development, acquisition, test and evaluation in the command and control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) domains. As the SPAWAR National Competency Lead, he substantially influences over $500 million in research and applied sciences.

Dr. Russell has worked in the Federal service at SSC Pacific, and its predecessor organizations, since 1986. In April 2005, Dr. Russell was selected as the Manager of the Electromagnetics and Advanced Technology Division at SSC Pacific predecessor Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center San Diego. The division provided research, development, test and Fleet support in the areas of electromagnetic modeling, antenna design, modeling and testing of electromagnetic compatibility and interference, radio frequency and optical propagation, communication systems interoperability, lasers and laser systems, electro-optics, electromagnetic sensors, photonic devices and systems, and other C4ISR technologies. In March 1997, Dr. Russell was selected as the Supervisor of the Advanced Technology Branch at SSC Pacific predecessor Naval Command Control and Ocean Surveillance Center. He provided technical direction for research, development and testing in the areas of lasers and laser systems, electro-optics, electromagnetic sensors, photonic devices and systems, flat panel and 3-dimensional volumetric displays, manufacturing technology and other C4ISR devices and systems. From June 1986 to March 1997, Dr. Russell was a physicist leading a variety of research and development projects at SSC Pacific predecessor, the Naval Ocean Systems Center.

Dr. Russell received his bachelor's degree with a double major in physics and earth & space science from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1979. He received his master's degree in physics and doctorate degree in physics from the University of Michigan in 1981 and 1986, respectively.

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Among his many awards, he received the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) International Benjamin H. Oliver Gold Medal in Engineering in 2008, the SSC Pacific Lauritsen-Bennett Award for Excellence in Science in 2005, the Naval Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 2003, the Naval Award of Merit for Group Achievement in 2002, the NASA Space Act Award in 2002, and the Federal Laboratory Consortium Excellence in Technology Transfer Award in 2001.

Dr. Russell is author or co-author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, technical reports, and publications in professional conference proceedings. He holds over 110 U.S. and foreign patents issued or pending, with over twenty-five percent commercially licensed. He is an Advisory Committee Member for the San Diego State University Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

Dr. Russell is a member of the American Physical Society, SPIE- The International Society for Optical Engineering, and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA).